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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	:	Patel, et al.
Appl. No.	:	10/007,003
Filed	:	November 9, 2001
For	:	SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PROVIDING A DISTRIBUTED FILE SYSTEM UTILIZING METADATA TO TRACK INFORMATION ABOUT DATA STORED THROUGHOUT THE SYSTEM
Examiner	:	Te Y. Chen
Group Art Unit	:	2161

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED  
EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

**Mail Stop RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following amendment and remarks are responsive to the rejections set forth by the Examiner in the Final Office Action mailed September 15, 2005.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.